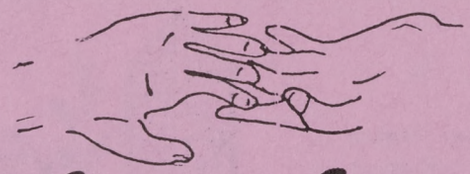
AUGUST 85

News and Notes from the
Fellowship Offices



# Keeping in Touch

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304, Los Angeles, CA 90020-9990 (213) 464-5100

## JUNE 1985
## TOP 20 TITHES
(Received by July 15th, 1985)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | MCC Dallas | Dallas, TX | $2,255.75 |
| 2. | MCC of the Resurrection | Houston, TX | 1,712.34 |
| 3. | Christ Chapel MCC | Santa Ana, CA | 1,524.71 |
| 4. | Church of Holy Spirit | Ft. Lderdale, FL | 1,478.24 |
| 5. | MCC in the Valley | No. Hollywood, CA | 1,236.22 |
| 6. | MCC New York | New York, NY | 1,076.81 |
| 7. | MCC Long Beach | Long Beach, CA | 1,015.72 |
| 8. | Agape MCC | Ft. Worth, TX | 804.49 |
| 9. | MCC Washington | Washington, DC | 772.19 |
| 10. | Holy Covenant MCC | LaGrange, IL | 463.38 |
| 11. | MCC of the Disciples | Washington, DC | 460.99 |
| 12. | St. Luke's MCC | Jacksonville, FL | 453.19 |
| 13. | Good Shepherd Parish MCC | Chicago, IL | 438.12 |
| 14. | Mid-Cities MCC | Arlington, VA | 398.88 |
| 15. | MCC San Jose | San Jose, CA | 350.52 |
| 16. | MCC Albuquerque | Albuquerque, NM | 347.33 |
| 17. | St. John's MCC | Raleigh, NC | 344.40 |
| 18. | New Life MCC of Tidewater | Norfolk, VA | 312.72 |
| 19. | Ch. of Holy Spirit MCC | Des Moines, IA | 305.34 |
| 20. | MCC Baltimore | Baltimore, MD | 287.97 |

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## JUNE 1985
## TOP 20 PER CAPITA
(Received by July 15, 1985)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Christ Chapel MCC | Santa Ana, CA | $47.65 |
| 2. | MCC Midland/Odessa | Odessa, TX | 16.93 |
| 3. | New Covenant MCC | Garden Grove, CA | 16.10 |
| 4. | MCC of Disciples | Washington, DC | 15.57 |
| 5. | MCC in the Valley | No. Hollywood, CA | 14.97 |
| 6. | MCC Washington | Washington, DC | 14.41 |
| 7. | Redeemer MCC of Flint | Flint, MI | 14.35 |
| 8. | MCC Rockville | Rockville, MD | 14.25 |
| 9. | MCC in El Paso | El Paso, TX | 14.18 |
| 10. | MCC Charlotte | Charlotte, NC | 14.13 |
| 11. | MCC Providence | Providence, RI | 13.86 |
| 12. | MCC San Jose | San Jose, CA | 13.75 |
| 13. | MCC of Northern Virginia | Oakton, VA | 13.55 |
| 14. | MCC Richmond | Richmond, VA | 13.54 |
| 15. | MCC Salem | Salem, OR | 13.18 |
| 16. | MCC Buffalo | Buffalo, NY | 12.82 |
| 17. | Church of New Hope MCC | Waterloo, IA | 12.80 |
| 18. | MCC New York | New York, NY | 12.71 |
| 19. | Holy Covenant MCC | LaGrange, IL | 11.76 |
| 20. | MCC Topeka | Topeka, KS | 11.26 |

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** There are some churches who could have been listed here as well, however, their Tithes were late...

## PRAISES!!!

Praise God for a wonderful General Conference XII in Sacramento, California. Special thanks to our Conference Coordinator, Mr. Jim Voltz, to Rev. Elder Freda Smith, Madeline Reed and the wonderful people of River City MCC, our host Church!

Praises for five (5) new Mission congregations (of which, our nomenclature will soon change with the passage of the G.S.S. proposal!) MCC Amarillo, Texas; MCC Shreveport, Louisiana; MCC El Paso, Texas; New Life MCC of Charlotte, N. Carolina and Disciples MCC, Washington, DC.

The Third World people present at General Conference XII elected Rev. Yolanda ("Loni") Allen, Assistant Pastor of MCC in the Valley, as their new Director of Third World Ministries. Congratulations Rev. Allen!

Praise God, The first service of M.C.C. at the California Institute for Women (a state prison) was held July 18, 1985 with 20 women in attendance! Women from MCC Los Angeles and DeColores MCC are cooperating in this effort.

The Samaritan "Orientation to MCC Pastoring" was off to a great two (2) week start with 16 students in attendance - from the U.S., Canada, England, Australia and Mexico!

Congratulations to the new Church Extension Officer of the Hispanic Americas, Dr. Armando Hernandez. Dr. Hernandez is a physician and a member of ICM Mexico City - The new office for Hispanic Ministries is in Mexico City.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Love and prayers are requested for Rev. Alice Jones and her spouse, Wanda. Rev. Jones' mother, Irene Jones died July 17th. Expressions of love and concern may be sent to them c/o MCC Tulsa, P.O. Box 4187, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 73106-2237.

Love and prayers are also requested for Mr. Rudd Canady, whose father died recently. Expressions of love and concern may be sent to Rudd Canady, 439 S. Orange Ave., Orange, NJ, 07079

Prayers for continued progress in the aids crisis. Our government is being pressured to put more money and effort into the process of finding a cure...Thank God!

## PRESS RELEASE

Washington, DC -- In a step described by Gay Rights National Lobby as a "major breakthrough" and "critical development," eleven major religious denominations have recently joined in a letter to Members of Congress urging support and co-sponsorship of the national gay and lesbian civil rights bill, H.R. 230.

Among the groups signing the joint letter, which is the first of its kind on the federal bill, are the Church of the Brethren, United Methodist Church, the Lutheran Council in the USA, the Presbyterian Church, the United Church of Christ, the Episcopal Church, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the Unitarian-Universalist Association, American Ethical Union and the National Council of Churches. The joint letter is the first of several steps planned to demonstrate strong religious support for the civil rights bill.

The letter states:

> Our religious traditions teach the importance of providing equal justice for all persons... As representatives of religious traditions we recognize a special responsibility to provide moral leadership in improving public understanding of this issue. While some of our traditions oppose the practice of homosexuality, our traditions maintain strong support for the protection of basic civil and human rights of all persons.

The joint letter was coordinated by Ralph Watkins, Legistaltive Counsel of the Church of the Brethren. Watkins said, "We have been offended that public portrayal of religious perspectives on this issue has focused almost exclusively on negative, anti-gay sentiments.

Nancy Roth said,"The letter, helps us demonstrate broad based religious suport".

For more information contact: Nancy Roth, Executive Director, Gay Rights National Lobby, P.O. Box 1892, Washington, D.C. 20013.

### GENERAL CONFERENCE MEMORABILIA

Tapes are still available for purchase of any or all the Worship Services at General Conference. The cost for all tapes is still at a very low price of $50.00 dollars. This includes all the music from the Saturday evening Concert.

Conference T-Shirts, Buttons and other memorabilia are also available for purchase. T-Shirts are reduced to $5.00 and Buttons are now $ .50.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### "AVAILABLE" LISTS -

The Fellowship currently publishes a list of available clergy, and available churches, which we continuously update, publish, and distribute monthly (and upon request).

If you or your church would like to be placed on the list, or need a copy of either list, just write to us.

In addition, we have recently received requests for "other" available positions in churches: for assistant pastors, associate pastors or staff clergy. If you are looking for such a position, and are a licensed UFMCC Clergy, let us know - Or, if your church is looking for someone to fill such positions, let us know that, too. (Send to "Available Lists," UFMCC).

### FROM CLERGY CREDENTIALS AND CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Rev. Claudia Vierra, Chair

The deadline for application to take the proficiency exams in October and November is Sept. 1, 1985.

The Polity Exam will not be offered until the 2nd quarter of 1985-1986.

Clergy, please find enclosed your quarterly status report. Fill them out and send them to: Rev. Claudia Vierra, C.C.C.C., 172 San Carlos Way, Novato, CA, 94947-1662.

The Student Clergy Manual will be available Sept. 1, 1985. The cost will be the same as the Clergy Manual; $10.00 plus $3.00 for shipping and handling.

### THE UFMCC BY-LAWS

The Fellowship By-Laws will be available shortly. If you would like your copy(s), for promptness, please send your order with an accurate return address and enclose the quantity you wish to order. We will bill you. The cost will be $ 1.25 each plus shipping charges.

(The By-Laws are presently in English only, we will be getting out the Spanish By-Laws as soon as possible).

## NOTICE

The first meeting of the General Council will be Oct. 22 - 26, 1985 in the L.A. area. More information will be forthcoming as plans for the meeting progress.

# NOVEMBER

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ☐Want to be on our mailing list? ☐Have you moved? ☐Changed phone number? ☐Changed post office box? **PLEASE LET US KNOW IMMEDIATELY!** Name _____ Old Address _____ New Address _____ Phone Number _____ | | | 1 ←Southwest District Conference→ **Harlem MCC started 1981** All Saints Day | 2 |
| 3 ←S.W. Dist Conf.→ All Saints Sunday | 4 | 5 Election Day | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 **Fellowship & District Tithes Due** ***District Coordinators Reports Due*** Veterans Day Remembrance Day (Canada) | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 **Christ The Sovereign** | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Thanksgiving Day (USA) | 29 | 30 |

# DECEMBER

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1<br>First Sunday of Advent | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8<br>First Day of Hanukkah | 9 | 10<br>**Fellowship & District Tithes Due**<br>***District Coordinators Reports Due*** | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14<br>**Anniversary of Founding MCC Melbourne, Australia** |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20<br>**Samaritan College Fall Term Ends** | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25<br>Christmas | 26<br>Boxing Day (U.K. not Scotland) | 27<br>**Celebrate Kwanzaa** | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | ☐Want to be on our mailing list? ☐Have you moved?<br>☐Changed phone number? ☐Changed post office box?<br>**PLEASE LET US KNOW IMMEDIATELY!**<br>Name _____<br>Old Address _____<br>New Address _____<br>Phone Number _____ | | | |